

SITUATION IN SAMOA

Constant Contests Between Forces of the Rival Kings.

HEAVY LOSSES IN RECENT FIGHT

More Details of the Death of White Officers.

BEHEADED WHILE ALIVE

ATCKLAND, N. Z., April 27.—Particulars of the fighting in Samoa, contained in the advices received here from Apia under date of April 18, show that the battle between the friendly natives and the rebels took place at Vailalo, and that the latter lost one hundred men in killed and wounded.

Further details of the deaths of Ensign J. S. Monaghan, of the United States cruiser Albatross, and Lieut. P. V. Lansdale of the same vessel, have been received. They show that Monaghan was beheaded before he was dead. A deserter from the Matafua forces says Monaghan and Lansdale were retreating when they were discovered by a chief and his wife who were looking for dead men. They gave the alarm and Monaghan was shot while continuing the retreat. Later, it appears the rebels returned and killed Lansdale. Monaghan fought until he was wounded and was then beheaded. The doctor's examination of the remains confirms the statements made.

Said 100 British Were Killed. The principal rebel chief, ran away and told his people a hundred British had been killed.

Matafua declares that the German sent out the bags of rice and sugar along the coast in December. Admiral Kautz, it is asserted in the advices received, fired a blank shot on April 8 across the bows of a German schooner which was leaving Apia without reporting. The rebels who were in possession of the late Robert L. Stevenson's house and some forts were attacked in the rear by some German friends, were attacked, and some of them and wounded others. One friendly native was killed in the fight.

A faithful weather has been prevailing at Apia. The sailors were compelled to sleep four nights in the wet trenches. The friendly natives, under the command of Lieut. A. G. Gaunt of the British third-class cruiser Porpoise, were ordered on April 12 from the French mission station at Fialia. One of his men was wounded. The rebels were eventually routed with the loss of four men killed.

Tamasese Lines Extended. The Tamasese lines were extended on April 13 to the Vailalo battlefield. Matafua attacked the friendly and Gaunt's brigade joined in the engagement and fought well. Four bodies of slain rebels were recovered. The rebels were driven away. One friendly native was killed and beheaded and one wounded. The rebels had a German flag flying from their forts. About 2,000 women and children have sought refuge at the public station of the London Missionary Society.

The rebels are seizing the traders' rifles, clubs and spears and are forcing them to flee to Apia. Business is at a standstill and a strong land force is urgently needed. On Apia, formerly a lieutenant in the German army and the man who organized the forces of Matafua here, armed with a sword, gun and cartridges, proceeded to seize the German flag and the German flagpole. The police called the attention of Col. A. G. Gaunt, chairman of the entertainment committee, to the matter, but after a number of days he decided to let the delegates sit as they wished.

SOUTHERN LYNCHINGS DENOUNCED. Action Taken at Jersey City A. M. E. Conference. NEW YORK, April 27.—The African Methodist Episcopal conference, in session at Jersey City today, adopted resolutions denouncing the lynchings in the south, declaring that mob violence was entirely contrary to the spirit of the Christian religion, and that instances of lynchings were below animals of the lowest type.

The address of Bishop Alexander Walters yesterday against lynching was indorsed as the sentiment of the New Jersey conference. The conference calls upon the white people of the south, who favor honor, law, order and good government, to assert their influence, and to use their own power in the eyes of the civilized people of the world, by doing all that can be put a stop to lynchings.

The conference put itself on record as being against all crime, and expressed gratification at the triumph of the American arms in the war with Spain, and the advance of civilization. The conference expressed regret at the loss of life in the Philippines, and that the United States should show its sympathy.

Naval Orders. Rear Admiral H. E. Erlen, retired, has been given permission to leave the United States for six months.

Says That He Is Merely Sustaining Decision of the Admiralty. The following cable message from Rear Admiral Kautz at Apia was made public at the Navy Department today:

ATCKLAND, April 27, 1899. Secretary of the Navy, Washington: The receipt of telegrams of March 21 and April 18, acknowledged. Coal cannot be obtained at Apia. May be obtained from Auckland. Everything is quiet at Apia. I am aggressive on Matafua rebels, but I am protecting the United States consulate, the United States property and the Samoan government, as established by the decision of the chief justice of the supreme court.

(Signed) H. E. KAUTZ. Admiral Kautz has already anticipated the receipt of the cable message from the admiralty, and a large supply of that commodity is now on its way to Samoa.

Admiral Kautz has been notified of the appointment of the joint Samoan commission, and instructed to maintain the status quo in Samoa until the commissioners arrive at Apia and assume supreme control of affairs in the island.

PENSION FRAUDS. Charges Made by Officials of the Pension Bureau. Abraham Ackerman, a notary public, located at No. 14 East 14th street, New York city, was arrested on the 24th instant, charged with having postdated certain pension vouchers and executed them without the pensioners having appeared before him and being sworn, as required by law.

Albert E. Philpott, a notary public, located at No. 85 East 14th street, New York city, was arrested on the 24th instant, charged with having executed certain pension vouchers without the pensioners having appeared before him and being sworn, as required by law.

Charles W. Brown, a notary public, located at No. 21 Nassau street, New York city, was arrested on the 25th instant, charged with having postdated and executed pension vouchers without the pensioners having appeared before him and being sworn, as required by law.

Mary A. Burrows was arrested at Oxford street, N. Y. on the 26th instant, charged with having drawn pension on the widow of John S. Kierstead, after her remarriage to Charles Burrows, which occurred May 1898. She was brought before United States Commissioner John Whitehead of Newark, N. J., and committed to jail in default of a bond of \$2,500 for hearing.

Elizabeth Foster, a sister of Mary A. Burrows, was arrested at Newark, N. J., on the 25th instant, charged with having aided and abetted her sister by making oath as a witness to the pensioner's quarterly vouchers that Mary A. Kierstead had died since the soldier's death. She was held by the United States commissioner under a bond of \$2,500 for hearing.

Wastes its sweetness on the desert air.

From the Norfolk Virginian.

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